

**Topical Heading**

## School Improvement

**Program Title**

## Parental Information and Resource Centers

**Also Known as**

PIRCs

**CFDA # (or ED #)**

84.310A

**Administering Office**

Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII)

**Who May Apply (by category)**

Nonprofit Organizations

**Who May Apply (specifically)**

Nonprofit organizations or a consortium of a nonprofit organization and a local education agency (LEA) may apply. In the case of an application submitted by a consortium that includes an LEA, the nonprofit organization must serve as the applicant agency.

**Current Competitions**

FY 2006 application deadline: May 15, 2006.

**Type of Assistance (by category)**

Discretionary/Competitive Grant

**Appropriations**

Fiscal Year 2004      \$41,974,878

Fiscal Year 2005      \$41,886,208

Fiscal Year 2006      \$39,600,000

**Fiscal Year 2006 Awards Information***Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.*

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 65

Average New Award: \$615,000

Number of Continuation Awards: 0

**Legislative Citation***Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, Title V, Part D, Subpart 16; 20 U.S.C. 7273 et seq.***Program Regulations**

EDGAR

**Program Description**

Parent Information and Resource Centers (PIRCs) help implement successful and effective parental involvement policies, programs, and activities that lead to improvements in student academic achievement and that strengthen partnerships among parents, teachers, principals, administrators, and other school personnel in meeting the education needs of children. Sec. 5563 of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)* requires the recipients of PIRC grants to: serve both rural and urban areas; use at least half their funds to serve areas with high concentrations of low-income children; and use at least 30 percent of the funds they receive for early childhood parent programs.

**Types of Projects**

Centers must include activities that establish, expand, or operate early childhood parent education programs and typically engage in a variety of technical assistance activities designed to improve student academic achievement, including understanding the accountability systems in the state and school districts being served by a project. Specific activities often include helping parents to understand the data that accountability systems make available to parents and the significance of that data for such things as opportunities for supplemental services and public school choice afforded to their children under Sec. 1116 of the *ESEA*. Projects assist parents to communicate effectively with teachers, principals, counselors, administrators, and other school personnel; and help parents become active participants in the development, implementation, and review of school improvement plans. Additionally, projects generally develop resource materials and provide information about high quality family involvement programs to families, schools, school districts, and others through conferences, workshops, and dissemination of materials. Projects generally include a focus on serving parents of low-income, minority, and limited English proficient (LEP) children enrolled in elementary and secondary schools.

**Education Level (specifically)**

The program is aimed at parents of preschool, elementary school and secondary school students

**Subject Index**

Children, Family Involvement, Limited English Speaking, Low Income, Parents, Preschool Education

**Contact Information**

Name: Steve L. Brockhouse  
E-mail Address: [steve.brockhouse@ed.gov](mailto:steve.brockhouse@ed.gov)  
Mailing Address: U.S. Department of Education, OII  
Parental Options and Information  
400 Maryland Ave. S.W., Rm. 4W229, FB-6  
Washington, DC 20202-5961  
Telephone: (202) 260-2476  
Fax: (202) 205-5630

**Links to Related Web Sites**

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/pirc/index.html>